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REMONSTRANCE and PROTESTATION
OF ALL THE
GOOD PROTESTANTS

Of this Kingdom, against Deposing their Lawful Sovereign
K. JAMES II.

7, 16, 24

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REMONSTRANCE and PROTESTATION

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Of this Kingdom, against Deposing their *Lawful Sovereign*,
K. J A M E S II.

SINCE it is evident to the whole World, that the present State of this Kingdom is a *State of Force*; and that after all the pretence of *Property*, there is no *Law* in *England* but the *Long Sword*; & that upon that Foundation Our present *Architects* are raising the Fabrick of their *New Government*: We who profess our selves to be *True Protestants*, and *Tenderers* of the *Honour* of our Religion, then of our Lives; to think our selves obliged, in *Conscience*, to vindicate our Reputation to Mankind; by declaring our *Disatisfaction* to the present proceedings, and making a *publick Protestation* against the Authors of them.

It is true, The *Fears* and *Jealousies* we have had of the coming in of *Papery*, by the Influence of some great Men of that Religion had upon *His Majesty*; improved by the daily Reflections that were made, and the *Ill Turn* that was given to every Act of State, by some *Malignant Spirits* among our selves; made us, we confess, very *Cold and Indifferent* in *His Majesties* Defence, against a *Prince of the Blood*, of our Own Religion, whose Errand (as we were told) *Was to preserve our Religion and Laws, and the Just Succession of the Royal Line*. This only could have made us endure an Action we should else have hated; presuming our *Kings loss*, should have been *His Gain*; and our *Yielding*, our *Victory*: But since we behold, to our unspeakable Grief, that our *Condissention* is Treacherously abused to private Ends; and that shew of our *Disloyalty*, not made a Remedy to the Government, but a Ruin to our King, and an Infamy to our selves, to serve the turn of some Mens Avarice and Ambition; We think fit to Protest against such Injustice, and to declare, *We neither know, nor will acknowledge any other King, then JAMES the Second, who is our Lawful Sovereign while He lives*; and this Resolution we will maintain upon all Occasions, as becomes *Loyal Subjects and good Protestants* to do. Nor ought this to appear a blind or unreasonable Sacrifice on our part; since we can find neither Truth nor Justice in the Reason given for *laying His Majesty aside*: For the Kings Desertion, so much spoken of, was a plain Necessity,
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and not a Crime: Had those Forraigners that Conquer'd, but by leave, suffered Him to stay a King at Home, He had never gone Abroad; but if it were a Crime, it was *against Himself*, and not against the Kingdom: His sins against the Nation we have daily expected to hear of: *Those black practices* that brought the Prince of Orange hither to save us, and do his *Princes Right*: It is plain His Desertion, which is now made the fault to Dethrone Him, could be none of them; for that was not foreseen by the Prince, or those that called him in: And we Challenge those that have Impeached Him to prove to us, as clearly as they made us believe they could, that the *Birth of the Prince of Wales is an Imposture, that the King has made a League with France to cut off the Protestants of these Kingdoms; and that his Brother and the Earl of Essex were murdered by his appointment.* Had these vile things been proved upon Him, we had done with him for ever; and till then, common Honesty would fly in our Faces if we should Desert Him: And though his Enemies have been able to deceive us, we hope they shall not be able to Destroy us. If our *Good Nature* had suffered us to be easily abus'd, our Integrity will oblige us as quickly and throughly to resent it: And therefore since we cannot have their proofs, *We must and will have our King again for all this.*

We know the excuse that is made for this profound silence, that they forbear to prove this black charge, *out of pure tenderness to the King*; but we are not to learn at this time of the day, the great *Tenderness of my Lord Shro. Mord. Lov. Mr. Harb. Burn. and Ferg. towards his Majesty*; no more then the *gratitude of my Lord Moug. Chur. Bark. and the Bishop of Durh. or the Mercy of Kirk, or the Valour of Lene. or the Morals of all of them.*

But those Gentlemen and their Partners are too tender to prove their charge, why did they make it? and if they cannot do it, why do they proceed and refuse to open his Letters sent for an Accommodation? They have accused his Majesty of *Imposture*, they must prove it, or make themselves the worst of *Impostors*, which is an ill bottom for a *Reformation* to stand upon. It is impossible for men of comon sense to imagine, that three Kingdoms can be taken away from any Man, *out of tenderness to him*, especially if the reason of it be, *that they show no cause why they do it.* It is a Mystery to us, how they can be so very tender of his credit, & at the same time, and in the same occasion, so mighty careless of their Own. This has so ill a Face with us, that the whole seems the *plot of a few Men*, to serve themselves of the Kings *popery*, and the Prince of Orange's *Protestancy*, to bring Honours and profits of the Government into their own Hands; which is not preserving our property, but making a property of Us.

It is this that compels us to say, and declare to the whole World, we
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look upon our selves to be cheated, and our King to be Belyed and Betrayed out of all his Kingdoms. Nor can the Prince be blameless, if he yields to what they would give him for their own sakes, since that were only to do his & their business, and not the Kingdoms. It is not enough to say, it is put upon him, for none can believe a few Naked Conventioners could force him at the head of his Army, to take three Crowns from his Father, Brother, Sister, and Wife, against his own Will and Declaration. And that he should do it out of pure Self Denyal, is as incomprehensible, as that he could do it justly, after what he has said to the States, and to us to the contrary. If therefore he came for less than 3 Crowns, less then 3 Crowns should satisfie him: if nothing less will content him; Our preservation was not the real Motive of his coming, and then the hazards he run upon this score, cannot be justly placed to the account of Merit. The King of France himself (for ought we know) would have turned Protestant for the Bargan, which had been at least a great Miracle, as any we have yet seen in this Affair. And though what we have said, were sufficient to deter all good Protestants from taking any part in the Work now in hand, yet we cannot forbear expressing our Zeal against those Evil practices, by letting our Countrey Men know, the great Michief that must inevitably follow upon such a Revolution, viz. Reproach, Violence, Taxes, Blood and Poverty.

First, We shall become the Reproach and Scorn of all Nations: It cannot be otherwise, when Subjects Attempt to Judge and Deprive their Sovereign, which is a great Contradiction, as well as Danger in Government: But to do it without being so much as once heard and summoned, is an Injury not to be acted towards the meanest of his Subjects: King Charles the I. had fairer Quarter from Cromwel and Bradshaw: They did not only charge Him, but offered matter in Evidence to maintain the Charge: But this King, must be Guilty of what his Accusers refuse to prove, if yet able to do it; and be Dethroned for Deserting the Kingdom, though He could not help it. Nor do these Gentlemen stop here; they will change the Crown, as well as the King; they will not be contented to lay him by, but choose who shall follow; and by that make the Crown Elective, which for above 600. years has been successive: A thing, they ly under no necessity to do, but is the pure effect of their adenterous and flattering Honour. Can this do less then render us Odious to the whole world, when the King they lay aside, never attempted so great an Alteration in any branch of the constitution.

2ly. We are inevitably in a state of Force, for what is gotten by Force must

must by Force be maintained; and let us flatter our selves what we will it is not a Vot of parliament, but the nature of the thing that will prevail: They that make the change, must and will use Force for their own security, whatever becomes of Ours.

3^{dly}. The charge of the Revolution, will be intollerable in a while; We shall lay down a computation of one Years Expençe for an instance.

To 70 Sail of Great and Small Ships of War in the Channel, and 12 Fire Ships and Tenders for one year,	1400000	l.
To 8 Sail in the Straits, and 5 in America for the same time	0130000	l.
To Transporting and Maintaining 15000 Men to be employed in Ireland, for one year with Artillary, &c.	500000	l.
To the Charge of sending and keeping an Army in the Low Countries of 15000 Men for a year	0500000	l.
For an Army of 15000 Men in England yearly	0300000	l.
The Total	2830000	l.

To this must be added the Expençe of Civil Government at Home, Embassies, Intelligence, Secret Services abroad, Domestick or Family Expences, Charges upon the Revenue for Debts owing, or by Pensions to Persons Aged, Necessitous, or Meritorious, which will mount it to above Three Millions, and that is more than one Third of the yearly value of the whole Kingdom. To this must be added the Abatement that will necessarily follow, both in the Customs and Excise, by reason of War and decay of Trade; which in the Customs alone, cannot be less than one Third, and that comes to at least 400000 l. a year.

Here is Poverty like an Armed Man: All Rents must fall at least one half. No Employments can be had in proportion to the Poor: The means of Charity, as well as Hearts to give, will be wanting; the Objects of it must extreemly increate, and that so very suddenly, that it will not be in our power to hinder it, if we have not that Peace, which nothing else can give us, but the Restoration of our right Master.

4th. And for Blood, can we hope to escape it in War? First by Sea, it is not to be avoided; by Land, we shall invade the Territories or Conquests of France, if he in our Kings Quarrel, does not invade us first. Secondly, there is blood with a vengeance, tho' we are not beaten, but if we are beaten, there is Blood with Rebellion upon us, which will not end without Blood in peace, and almost an infinite forfeiture of Estates. Thirdly, We are not assured we shall be long quiet within our selves, many
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strong Factions already appearing; and we are less assured, that Scotland will not be in Arms, and find something to do in this Conjunction, that has a King to loose and to chuse as well as we. For Ireland we are assured, or ought to be, they who possess the Government, will lose it at as dear a rate as they can. Their All is at stake, and they are not without hopes by the French Kings assistance, to recover all for their own, and will value themselves to him and the World, by revenging our *Disloyalty* and *Insolence* both to him and them. Nor can we think they will expose this indignity to the first King of their Religion, since the *Reformation* has suffered those to be ill used here, that have faithfully served their King, without meeting the same measure to some disloyal persons there. Ourselves, as little wit as we allow the Irish to have, they have enough to know that a *Massacre*, which we so much talk of, would be their own ruin, and that if they carry it fair to the English, they will in a while gain those there to joyn them, and more than there too, for the Restoration of their and our Lawful King. But be it as it will, whether we regard our selves, Scotland, Ireland, or Holland; War and Blood look us in the Face, and Poverty and Misery must follow: These are like to be the sad Consequence of this *Celebrated Change*.

Now whether our Dangers were so great, or our Fears so just, as to require all this alteration for our Security, days of Affliction can only inform us, if we will still be deaf to those just and peaceable Expedients, that have been often proposed to us. We shall close our *Remonstrance*, with this caution to the present busie Men, that since They cannot honestly lay Their King aside, *without entring into the Merits of the Cause*, which it is plain They wave; and in as much as They cannot justly say, *He has laid Himself aside*; by Deserting Them, when his Detention, is *coercive and against His will*, Let Them Repent of what They have done, and let us all joyn, for the prevention of Civil, as well as Foreign bloody Wars, to fetch Him Home to the Kingdoms of His Fathers, with greater Glory than He came first to Them; and it shall not lessen It, that it be done with greater Security to our just Freedoms.

F I N I S.

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This image shows a blank, aged, cream-colored page, likely an endpaper or flyleaf of a book. The paper has a slightly textured appearance with some minor discoloration and faint, illegible markings, possibly from the reverse side or due to age. There are no visible text, illustrations, or other markings on the page.

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